

## NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

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Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street, SW Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman and Commissioners:

We applaud the Commission for your commitment to widespread broadband deployment and adoption through the creation of the National Broadband Plan. As Congress and the Obama Administration have stressed the importance of broadband adoption, we hope that you will continue your efforts to bring this important resource to all Americans.

At this time, less than half of African Americans have a home broadband connection. Broadband holds the promise for consumers to search for jobs online, connect to community resources, and start businesses from their homes. Given the enormous economic benefits that broadband can provide, our community cannot wait any longer to be fully connected.

In light of this challenge, we have a keen interest in the Commission's upcoming Notice of Proposed Rulemaking. We want to make sure that the proposed regulations do not have unintended consequences for our community.

Before taking any action, we hope that the Commission will seriously consider an analysis of how these regulations might affect broadband affordability, as well as deployment and adoption rates.

The development of a National Broadband Plan is an important opportunity for the Commission to bring broadband to 100 percent of Americans. In our current economic environment, it is critical that those who have yet to experience the value of this technology are able to take advantage of its considerable benefits.

Sincerely,

Kimberly Marcus Executive Director

> Rev. Jesse L. Jackson, Sr., Founder & President Martin L. King, Chairman www.rainbowpush.org